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THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM — A REVIEW OF SIX YEARS¹

By GEORGE A. DORSEY

THE ORIGIN OF THE MUSEUM

The termination of the World's Columbian Exposition in October, 1893, made imperative the founding in Chicago of a permanent scientific museum. Not only had the chiefs of certain departments of the Exposition, especially those of Mines and Metallurgy, Anthropology, and Transportation, assembled extensive exhibits which had been specially prepared with a view to the needs of a permanent museum, but opportunities were offered on every hand by domestic and foreign exhibitors for the immediate acquisition of valuable collections, which, under ordinary conditions, would consume much time and money for their assembling. The work of establishing a museum was given a new and irresistible impetus by the splendid gift, on October 26, 1893, of one million dollars by Mr Marshall Field. Within a few months this fund had increased by cash contributions to the extent of nearly half a million dollars more. The Museum was incorporated on the 14th of September, 1893, as the "Columbian Museum of Chicago." On June 25, 1894, this name was changed to "Field Columbian Museum." Mr E. E. Ayer was elected president of the board of trustees and Mr H. N. Higinbotham was chosen chairman of the executive committee; in October,

¹*An Historical and Descriptive Account of the Field Columbian Museum*, December, 1894, and *Annual Report of the Director to the Board of Trustees*, Vol. I, Nos. 1-5, 1895-1899.

1899, Mr Higinbotham was also elected president of the board, Mr Ayer having resigned in January of that year.

During the fall and winter of 1893 the work of transferring the collections donated by the Exposition was being rapidly performed. The Fine Arts building of the Exposition had been decided upon as the temporary home of the new Museum, and space was at once allotted to the different departments. In the meantime many donations of valuable collections had been made by various Exposition commissioners, and many other collections were bought outright, and by the opening of the year 1894 the work of installation had been entered upon in earnest. The Museum was dedicated and declared open to the public on June 2, 1894, by Mr Frederick J. V. Skiff, director.

An examination of the director's first report shows that the Museum consisted at that time of the departments of Anthropology, Geology, Botany, Zoölogy, Ornithology, Industrial Arts, and the Columbus Memorial, and of the divisions of Transportation and the Railway. By this time also (October, 1895) four courses of lectures had been given, a publication series, including a guide, had been begun, a library had been organized, a thorough system of records and departmental inventories had been inaugurated, a section of photography and a printing office had been established, and several expeditions had been undertaken in the interests of the various departments.

From the director's reports for the five years are extracted the following statistics showing the total expenditure and the attendance for each year:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
1895	\$156,909.97	328,321
1896	156,999.53	230,337
1897	104,804.88	220,283
1898	111,940.50	224,246
1899	128,936.50	223,304
Totals	\$659,591.38	1,226,491

Examining the latest available reports of the American Museum of Natural History (1898), and of the United States National Museum (1897), it is shown that their expenditures were \$204,955.95 and \$186,498.33 respectively. The attendance is not stated for the American Museum ; for the National Museum it was 229,606.

THE ORIGIN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Confining our attention now to the Department of Anthropology, let us first notice the material presented by the directors to the Museum at the close of the Exposition. These collections were obtained through special expeditions sent out under the direction of Professor Putnam, or by collectors resident in the field who were commissioned by the Department of Ethnology to undertake the work. The principal expedition to South America was under the direction of George A. Dorsey, who in 1891 was sent to Peru, Ecuador, Chile, and Bolivia. Other collections from South America were gathered through United States naval officers, commissioned by the department to go to widely remote localities ; the result of their work is to be seen in the Scriven collection from Costa Rica, the Welles collection from Orinoco river, the Safford collection from Peru, and the Bertollette collection from Paraguay.

The Central American field was covered by Mr Edward H. Thompson, United States Consul to Yucatan, under whose direction a series of casts from Central American ruins was procured, as well as by the research conducted by Messrs Saville and Owens. The archeological collection from southern California was obtained through the services of Stephen Bowers, of Ventura, California.

A series of archeological investigations among the ruined structures of North American aboriginal peoples was also initiated by Professor Putnam, and resulted in collections from Little Miami valley and the Hopewell group of mounds in Ross county,

Ohio, collected by Warren K. Moorehead ; the archeological collection from New Jersey by Ernest Volk, the Michigan collections by Harlan I. Smith, and the collection from Ohio by Dr C. L. Metz ; also the models of Ohio earthworks prepared under Professor Putnam's direction.

Expeditions were sent also to Alaska and among various Indian tribes of Canada and the United States, principally for the purpose of gathering anthropometric data, but incidentally to collect ethnologic material. The most important of these expeditions were those to northwestern America, where extensive collections were made by Deans, Jacobson, Eells, Swan, Morrison, and Hunt, all under the personal direction of Dr Franz Boas. Other valuable ethnological collections were made by Cowie among the Cree, Wilson among the Assiniboin, McLean among the Blackfeet, and Hall among the Ojibwa.

Chief among the collections presented to the Museum at its founding was that by President Ayer, comprising material from the Northwest coast, California, the Pueblo region, the Plains Indians, the Great Lakes region, Mississippi and Ohio valleys, and Mexico, the whole forming an extensive and unrivaled exhibit, the result of many years of discriminate collecting. Valuable collections were also donated by the governments of British Guiana, Mexico, and Nicaragua. Among the collections exhibited at the Exposition and purchased by the Museum should be mentioned the following: the Montez collection, illustrating the archeology of the Cuzco region of Peru ; the Colombia collection of gold, silver, stone, and ceramics from ancient Chibcha graves ; the Hassler collection from the Gran Chaco region of Paraguay ; the Umlauff collection of ethnological material from northwestern America and from Patagonia, Africa, and Oceanica ; the Peace collection from Melanesia ; the Finsch collection from Polynesia ; the Wyman collection of copper and stone implements from Wisconsin ; the Boas collection of skulls and skeletons ; the Remenyi collection from South Africa ; the Pogosky collection from

Siberia; the Lumholtz Mexican collection; the Green cliff-dweller collection; the Harris collection from Peru; the Johnson collection of Irish jewelry; the Ward collection of skulls, skeletons, masks, etc., and the Cunningham collection of brain models.

Naturally much osteological material of great ethnic value was procured along with many of the collections donated by the Exposition, as well as with many of the collections obtained by purchase. As a result the department was in possession of skulls and skeletons from Alaska, the Northwest coast, and several of the Plains tribes; from Ohio, New Jersey, and Arkansas mounds; from prehistoric graves in Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, and Chile; and through the Boas and Ward purchases many specimens from America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Pacific islands.

It should also be stated that in the section of industrial arts and transportation the Museum possessed a large amount of material which might be considered as a part of the anthropological exhibit, and indeed at a later date the section of industrial arts was abandoned and its collections were transferred to the Department of Anthropology.

Thus at the very outset the Department of Anthropology began its existence with many extensive and important collections representing many widely separated regions of the world, and illustrating many and diverse stages of culture and periods of time. Such was the condition of the department in the summer of 1894, six months after the close of the Exposition. The work, however, was only just begun. To be sure all these collections had been installed and the inventory had been commenced; but the installation had been hurriedly performed, many of the collections were in a state of confusion, the records of transfer and the collectors' original lists were more or less tangled, numerous varieties and styles of cases had been pressed into service, collections or parts of collections had been received which were discovered not to belong properly to a scientific museum, and above all great gaps were to appear which must be filled in the future.

Looking back on those memorable six months it seems incredible that so much was accomplished so well, and too much credit can not be given to Dr Franz Boas, who directed the work of installation until April 15, 1894, and to Prof. W. H. Holmes, who became the first curator of the department.

1894-'95

By the time of the appearance of the first report of the director (in October, 1895), the work of reorganization had been begun in a serious manner and an inventory of the material in the department was undertaken. The system adopted was that of the card catalogue and inventory book, and during the year 15,000 objects had been catalogued and over 650 labels printed. In eight of the exhibition halls the cases had been made more serviceable; an additional court had been devoted to anthropology, and many new cases had been provided. Through the generosity of Mr A. V. Armour, Professor Holmes, the curator of the department, visited several of the ruined cities of Mexico and Yucatan, where he obtained about a thousand archeological specimens and gathered considerable data which were embodied in the first two publications of the department. Miner W. Bruce had been outfitted by the Museum and had made a most successful expedition to Alaska, as a result of which the department acquired an extensive and valuable ethnologic collection from the Eskimo. Through President Ayer extensive purchases of interesting archeological specimens were made in Egypt and Italy, and from the Naples Museum were secured 260 reproductions of Roman bronzes. A special hall was set aside for the Egyptian material.

Other purchases during the year included the Keam collection from the Hopi of Arizona, thirty-seven paintings of American Indians by George Catlin, the Berlin collection of Egyptian and Assyrian casts, and the complete outfit of a Navaho medicine-man.

1895-'96

The second annual report of the director contains two statements which so admirably portray the activities not only of the

Department of Anthropology but of the entire Museum, that I quote them: "Expenditures have been made more in the direction of classification than in reinstallation; in working over old rather than in purchasing new material, and in labeling, numbering, and cataloguing specimens." . . . "The great courts have been metamorphosed, not only providing requisite space for the growing collections, but substituting for an installation of the character of an exposition, an arrangement on museum lines."

The inventorying of specimens was continued and to the card catalogue were added over 13,000 entries. The work of labeling was in general interrupted by other more essential work, but Dr Breasted of the University of Chicago was engaged for a limited time and made label translations of the numerous hieroglyphic texts of papyri, grave tablets, etc., for the Egyptian section.

Many important accessions of material were recorded during the year. The curator visited Rockland, Michigan, where he collected a series of flint implements from an ancient copper mine. Mr Bruce was again permitted to visit Alaska, returning with a more extensive collection of Eskimo products than had been obtained in the previous year. The exhibit showing the life of the Romans was further enriched by numerous specimens of bronze, including the two bronze bathtubs and a circular table of remarkable beauty from a villa near Pompeii. An exhibit representing the Etruscan and stone ages of Italy and some Roman terracottas were added through the generosity of Vice-president Ryerson. To the Egyptian collections were also added by purchase and gift many specimens of great interest, chief among which was a bronze sistrum in perfect condition which proved from its inscriptions to have been used in the temple of Ammon at Thebes. An unusually large bronze statue of Osiris is also worthy of special mention. Among other specimens from Egypt were a stone statue of Apet in black basalt, a series of grave tablets and tombstones, and a large number of figurines in faience. From Mr A. V. Armour and Mr Owen F. Aldis were received over 300 objects of great

archeological value from the Valley of Mexico and Oaxaca. A beginning was made in illustrating the antiquities of southern Illinois by the purchase of a large series of flint agricultural implements from W. J. Seaver, and President Ayer again manifested his interest in North American ethnology by presenting a number of specimens illustrating the arts and industries of the Plains Indians.

Mr E. L. Thompson of Merida, Yucatan, became associated with the department and began a series of excavations among the ruins of Xkichmook and Chichen Itza, which in the following year was to yield important archeological material. The staff of the department was further increased by the appointment of George A. Dorsey to the position of assistant curator in charge of physical anthropology. This made possible the work of identifying and cataloguing the material in this division, much of which had remained in storage and none of which had been catalogued, although Dr G. M. West had done effective work during the brief period that he was in charge of the collections at the opening of the Museum.

1896-'97

During the time from October 1896 to October 1897, as we may learn from the third report of the director, much was accomplished. The records of the department, it was realized, demanded heroic treatment, as new material had poured in at a steady rate and the old accessions had as yet by no means been put in creditable condition. Hence the clerical force of the department was increased and the work of cataloguing was pushed forward with all possible speed, especially during the four months preceding October. As a result it was estimated that the card catalogue was increased to the extent of ten thousand numbers.

The only expedition of the department during the year was by the assistant curator. During this field trip several tribes in the west were visited, in the following order: Blackfoot, Blood,

Flathead, Kootenay, Haida, Tsimshian, Hopi, and Zuñi. From all these tribes, except one, large important collections illustrating many and varied industries were gathered. From the Blackfeet, Bloods, and Haida was also collected a large amount of osteological material, while a small amount of similar material was obtained from the Kootenay, Tlingit, and Tsimshian. Mr Thompson, who in the previous year had undertaken exploration in Yucatan on behalf of the Museum, continued his excavations at Xkichmook and Chichen Itza, and from both ruins were obtained collections of the utmost value to the student of Mayan archeology.

Mr A. V. Armour placed the department under further obligations to him by presenting a collection of Mexican archeologic objects, comprising notable sculptures, vessels and ornaments in stone and terracotta, and many specimens of copper, clay, shell, etc. From Mr C. L. Hutchinson was received a most timely acquisition to the archeology of Italy, consisting of several hundred Etruscan objects of earthenware and bronze, excavated under the direction of Professor Frothingham. Another gift by Mr Hutchinson consisted of a funeral couch of bone and ivory excavated from a tomb at Orvieto. To the rapidly increasing Egyptian collection were added several interesting specimens in terracotta and stone, a gift of Mr W. M. Petrie of London. The only accession representing American archeology was a gift from Mr Clarence B. Moore of an interesting collection of shell cups and ornaments, earthen vases, and stone implements from mounds of Georgia and Florida. From Mr Gustavus Goward was purchased a small but carefully selected series of specimens illustrating the ethnology of Samoa; while from Mr D. W. Gill were purchased eighteen casts of Peruvian trephined skulls. The curator of zoölogy transferred to the department over 150 ethnological objects which he had collected in Somaliland.

In the matter of installation provision was made for new cases for the Hutchinson collection, and in the division of physical

anthropology the work of thoroughly rearranging the entire osteological collections, begun the previous year, was continued until they had been placed in proper condition. The material on exhibition was all withdrawn, and instead was submitted a series of exhibits, occupying twenty-six cases, showing the normal range of variation of the human skeleton. This was to have been followed by a more extensive osteological exhibit based on ethnic principles. The sections of graphic arts and of monographic arts were abolished during this year and the collections which composed them were transferred to the Department of Anthropology. Thus the department was enriched to the extent of three halls containing important series of exhibits illustrating modern ceramic and textile industries.

At the end of September the curator of the department, Professor Holmes, resigned to accept the position of curator of anthropology in the United States National Museum. George A. Dorsey was placed in charge as acting curator, and four months later was appointed curator.

1897-'98

The office of the curator was removed into new quarters, near the end of the east court, and more convenient to the exhibition halls. The room made vacant by the removal was put in order for exhibition purposes. Three new and much-desired workrooms were also added. Mr C. S. Simms, who had been connected with the Museum from the beginning and for two years with the department, was made assistant curator of ethnology, and seven additional preparators were added to the force during the year. With the force thus strengthened it was possible to make advances in the department which had been already contemplated. The first work undertaken related to the records, and inasmuch as up to that time the department was practically dependent on the recorder's files for information concerning original data for the entire mass of collections, and as the records on file in the recorder's

office were in many instances defective and otherwise incomplete, it seemed best to withdraw temporarily the entire body of records relating to the Department of Anthropology. These were carefully examined, omissions supplied, new accessions added — in short the records were almost rewritten. Duplicates were then made of all the records, and these were retained in the office of the department, which was thus put in an independent position for all existing information in regard to its collections.

Although the department was in possession of a card catalogue that covered nearly all the collections, this catalogue was found, for nearly every collection, to be more or less defective, owing to the fact that the curator had not been able, for financial reasons, to have at his command assistants experienced in work of this nature. In view of these facts it was decided to begin the catalogue anew, taking the cards of one collection after another and putting them in order, adding, changing, correcting, and often entirely rewriting them. Thus, including the additions to the card catalogues which were made from new accessions, there were handled 41,989 cards during the year. As rapidly as the card catalogue of any given collection was completed, it was referred to the assistant in charge of the records to be entered upon the inventory books and then to be filed away in numerical order according to the number of the accessions.¹ In this manner over 200 separate accessions were catalogued, occupying 17,960 entries in the inventory books.

The accessions of the year were many and important. The only expedition by any member of the staff of the department was that of the curator to the Hopi Indians of Arizona. On this trip he was accompanied by Mr Melville, and the object was to make plaster casts of certain Indians for use in the construction of ethnic groups, and to obtain the proper accessories thereof,

¹ The method adopted for cataloguing and inventorying specimens, and of filing and indexing accessions, was fully described in a paper on "The Anthropological Museums of Central Europe," *American Anthropologist*, N. S., vol. I, 1899, p. 473.

such as clothing, domestic utensils, etc. In both respects the expedition was entirely successful. Additional casts of aborigines for ethnic groups were also secured under most advantageous circumstances through the presence in Chicago of a party of Eskimo from Port Clarence, Alaska, under charge of Capt. M. W. Bruce, who had just returned from that region with the third consignment of Eskimo material. In this latter collection was an especially large number of fine specimens of ivory and jade implements. The largest and most valuable accession of the year was that obtained by President Ayer in Egypt and Italy. This included a large number of mortuary tablets and tomb fronts covering a long period of Egyptian history, many beautiful and costly specimens of Egyptian and Etruscan jewelry, some unusual bronze statues, and two very remarkable stone tombs of the early Etruscan period. The textile collections were further enriched by several hundred fabrics, representing the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries. These specimens were collected in Venice by Vice-president Ryerson, who presented them to the department. From Rev. T. W. Woodside, a missionary to Portuguese Southwest Africa, was acquired an extremely interesting collection illustrating the manners and customs of the Ovimbunda, a minor division of the great Bantu stock, and not hitherto represented in the Museum. The Polynesian collection was augmented by the purchase from W. T. Shephard of over 600 specimens. In the division of physical anthropology more than 150 skeletons were accessioned, the most important single collection being one of fifty-two Papuan skulls from Gazelle peninsula, New Britain, received in exchange from Dr Parkinson.

Much new installation was recorded for the year. Twelve new cases were added to the north court, devoted to European archeology, six of which were installed with the contents of Etruscan tombs. The east court was entirely reinstalled with material relating exclusively to American archeology, all collections not relating to that subject being transferred to their proper positions.

Hall 7 was emptied of the paper images from a Chinese joss-house and was renovated and prepared for the reception of new material. The contents of Halls 16 and 17 were reinstalled. In the former were placed new cases after a standard design at that time adopted for the department. Hall 17 was also equipped with new standard cases and was devoted to the ethnology of the Hopi. A large group representing a Hopi domestic scene, and four smaller groups representing certain religious customs, were added to the hall. In connection with the work of installation it may be noted that 2270 printed labels were placed with the specimens.

1898-'99

Dr Breasted of the University of Chicago was again employed for a limited time to prepare translations of Egyptian hieroglyphics for labels, and in January the services of Rev. H. R. Voth were enlisted in preparing labels for and in assisting in installing the Hopi collection.

The work of cataloguing and inventorying collections was industriously carried forward; as a result the card catalogue was increased by more than 10,000 numbers, and in the inventory books 15,912 entries were made.

As in previous years the accessions were both numerous and important. To increase the exhibits showing the methods of the manufacture of flint implements, the curator made two expeditions to aboriginal flint quarries. The first was to the Mill Creek quarry, Union county, southern Illinois, where over 2000 specimens were collected, showing every stage in the manufacture of twelve specialized types of implements. This great quarry is of unusual interest, as here were made the great flint agricultural implements, of several forms, which in size and beauty are among the most remarkable known to archeologists. The quarry is also of great interest inasmuch as there were developed, in the excavation of the raw material and in the manufacture of the immense imple-

ments, special forms of mining tools, hammers, and grinding and polishing stones. The second expedition was to the great chert beds on the Peoria reservation, Indian Territory, where nearly 400 specimens of unfinished implements, hammer-stones, cores, and flakes were collected. During the summer the curator also made an extended expedition in the west, visiting first the cliff-ruins of Walnut canyon, Arizona. From there he went to Ukiah, Mendocino county, California, where, accompanied by Dr J. W. Hudson, local ethnologist, he visited several tribes of the Pomo or Kulanapan stock in Mendocino and Lake counties. The result was a collection numbering over 300 objects of ethnologic interest, and representing nearly every phase of native life. From Ukiah he proceeded to Tacoma, Washington, where he was joined by Mr Melville and his assistant. Through the coöperation of the Ferry Museum of Tacoma, casts of nine individuals were made which were intended for ethnic groups to show the native industries of the people of Puget sound. Incidentally the Nasqually, Puyallup, Muckelshoot, and Fort Madison reservations, and native settlements on Cedar river and at Squauk were visited and many objects of ethnographic interest were obtained. The expedition then proceeded to Vancouver island, where additional casts were made for ethnic groups of the Kwakiutl.

By purchase the department procured a collection of 380 stone and flint relics from Putnam county, Ohio, a collection of over 200 objects from the Sioux, a collection of over 100 specimens from the Cheyenne and Arapaho, and a most interesting collection of sixteen mural panel decorations and other specimens from Hadrian's villa. Through exchange with Mr David Boyle, curator of the Toronto Museum, there was secured a valuable collection illustrating the archeology of Ontario; and by a similar method a full and complete series of tools, nodules, flakes, cores, etc., illustrating the method of the manufacture of gun-flints at Brandon, England, was obtained from Dr J. W. Phillips of Northwestern University, Evanston.

Of the many accessions to the department by gift, two deserve special mention. The first was that of Mr Stanley McCormick, who presented a collection of over 1600 specimens illustrating every phase of the past and present life of the Hopi Indians of Arizona. This collection was formed by Rev. H. R. Voth during many years as missionary among the Hopi, and is one of the most complete and representative collections ever assembled from any one tribe. Of the many excellent series comprised by the collection, of special interest are the dolls or *tihus* representing *kateenas*, masks of *kateenas*, *bahos* or prayer-offerings, stone implements, tools and utensils representing every known form, and a large number of specimens of so-called cream-colored pottery excavated from Hopi ruins, and especially valuable for the symbolism represented. Through Mr McCormick's generosity the department was also enabled to profit by Mr Voth's services for fourteen months in the preparation of a complete series of labels for the collection, and also in the construction of certain altars and sand mosaics which play so important a part in Hopi ceremony. Mr McCormick's liberal provision for this work was most timely, for the Hopi, who for over two hundred years have successfully resisted the encroachments of the whites, seem about to be entering upon the period of unrest and innovation which usually precedes the breaking up and gradual abandonment of the strictly aboriginal way of life.

The second donation, of almost equal importance, was that of President Higinbotham, who presented a Korean ethnological collection of over 500 specimens, comprising many jade objects of rare beauty and workmanship; bronze utensils; clothing and uniforms, including head- and foot-gear representing every station of life; armor and implements of warfare, personal ornaments, etc.

The work of reinstalling all the exhibition halls of the department and providing them with new cases, begun in the previous year, was carried forward as rapidly as time would permit. The acquisition of the McCormick Hopi collection, together with the

altars in process of construction, necessitated an additional hall, hence two halls hitherto devoted to South American archeology were vacated and into one were removed the ethnological collections from Venezuela, British Guiana, Brazil, and Paraguay, newly installed the previous year, and in the other were displayed the remaining ethnological collections from South America, chiefly from Peru. The room thus vacated (Hall 16) was then devoted to an exposition of Hopi ceremonies, the other Hopi hall containing the archeological collections and those objects which pertain to every-day life. The halls (10 and 11) devoted to the Eskimo were entirely rearranged, new cases being supplied and a new installation made. They were also furnished with four groups, from life casts, illustrating certain phases of specialized Eskimo life. From Ayer Hall were removed all specimens not having their origin in the Indians of the Great Plains, and in their stead were substituted other specimens from the Great Plains tribes, acquired by purchase or exploration. These changes made a new arrangement of Ayer Hall necessary, and this was done along the lines of ethnic division. The addition of much new archeologic material and the transfer of the prehistoric collections from South America necessitated some few changes in the east court, and made possible its complete installation, when it contained all the collections relating to American archeology. In connection with the general work of installation, over 3400 printed labels were placed with the specimens.

In September the curator was permitted to visit the chief museums of central Europe, where many valuable ideas in regard to museum management were obtained and negotiations were entered into for the acquisition of material illustrating the prehistoric archeology of Europe.

October, 1899, to March, 1900

During these five months work of a progressive nature has been conducted, such as characterized the year last described.

The card catalogue has been increased 10,523 numbers, and 6136 entries have been made in the inventory books. The event of unusual importance has been the additional interest manifested in the department by the gift of Mr Stanley McCormick of \$5000 for the purpose of making more complete the Hopi exhibit. Under this fund two expeditions have already been undertaken. Mr J. A. Burt spent nearly two months in the exploration of several Hopi ruins along Little Colorado river, Arizona, and as a result the exhibits showing the ancient life of the Hopi have been increased by over 300 fine specimens of pottery, bone, stone, shell, and textile fabrics. Part of Mr Burt's time was spent in examining ruins hitherto not represented in scientific museums, and while the full significance of his discoveries is not yet determined, it is safe to say that new factors have been added to our knowledge of the early movements of certain Hopi clans. The second McCormick expedition was that of the curator and Mr Voth in December to six of the Hopi pueblos, at which time notable additions were made to the collections devoted to the modern life of their occupants. While these additional specimens cover nearly every phase of activity, of special interest are the series of rare dolls, masks, prayer-sticks, and pipes. By the provisions of Mr McCormick's gift the department is enabled to retain the services of Mr Voth until the new specimens are labeled and until certain additional altars are constructed. Provision is also made for further explorations of Hopi prehistoric ruins, especially of those not yet represented in the Museum's collections.

In February the assistant curator made a visit to the Grand River reserve, Ontario, where he witnessed the complete ceremony of the sacrifice of the sacred white dog by the pagan Iroquois, and obtained an interesting collection of ceremonial paraphernalia, including about twenty of the masks worn in the dance. Material of this nature was not hitherto represented in the Museum.

The most important recent accession by purchase has been the Perrine collection, consisting of nearly 3000 specimens of

stone, pottery, shell, and bone. This collection was made by Mr T. M. Perrine about twenty years ago in the mounds and on the village and quarry sites of Union county, Illinois. It includes many of the finest chipped and polished stone implements ever brought together from this interesting region. Of unusual beauty are several very large specimens of polished chipped flint, a number of so-called bannerstones, stone pipes (one being of remarkable interest), and a large series of hematite adze blades. But the most valuable single object of stone is a statue of human form, of which a cast is figured in Wilson's *Prehistoric Art*,¹ p. 481.

Of pottery there are over a hundred specimens illustrating the characteristic forms of the region. In shell there are among other objects three gorgets, one a beautiful specimen of the spider effigy, the other two with a cross, one of the latter being figured in Holmes' *Art in Shell*.² A collection of over a thousand objects from prehistoric graves at Caldera, Chile, was acquired by gift from Mr Cyrus H. McCormick. Included in this collection are very interesting series of bone carvings, copper and gold ornaments, and a large number of the most beautiful spear- and arrow-points of jasper and chalcedony that are to be found in the department. The special value of the collection lies in the fact that hitherto the Museum possessed no collections illustrating the archeology of the western coast of South America south of Iquique, save a few specimens from Huasco.

In the work of installation, the last five months have been productive of much that is of a progressive nature, and one feature of the work is characteristic of the more recent trend of development in the Museum as a whole. I allude to the fact that Halls 8 and 9, which, since the establishment of the Museum, have contained the material transferred from the Exposition and known as the Columbus Memorial, have been emptied of their

¹ *U. S. National Museum Report*, 1896. Dr Wilson in this paper erroneously calls the original a clay statue.

² *Second Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology*, p. 270.

contents and are now being installed with purely anthropologic collections. Hall 9, one of the four largest in the building, is already installed with the Egyptian collections, while Hall 8 and the hall made vacant by the transfer of the Egyptian collection are to be devoted to the continually increasing collections illustrating the culture of the more primitive non-American races.

The two halls devoted to the ethnology of the Northwest coast of America have also been dismantled, and the collections have been carefully examined and the objects compared with collectors' original lists, all preparatory to a reinstallation in new cases in the same halls, to which will be added four ethnic groups, for which casts have already been made, illustrating certain phases of the domestic and religious life of this very interesting and complicated region.

Among the improvements which are to be made in the near future, provision is already made for the reinstallation of the contents of Ayer Hall (devoted to the tribes of the Great Plains) in new cases and with the addition of three illustrative ethnic groups, for which casts for one of the Cheyenne are already made, and the complete overhauling of five halls, devoted to Old World ethnology, with the expansion and reinstallation of their contents into seven halls.

With the changes and improvements noted above an accomplished fact, the exhibits which comprise the department will be classified according to locality or people; they will be in plain, simple, substantial cases, safe from the ravages of dust and moth. But the work of the department will not be finished, for, has not Prof. G. Brown Goode declared that a finished museum is a *dead* museum? It is recognized that there are vast regions of America, and even one entire great continent and many regions of other continents, which are but poorly represented or not represented at all, and to these regions must be directed the energies of the future, if the high educational objects of the Museum are to be adequately fulfilled.